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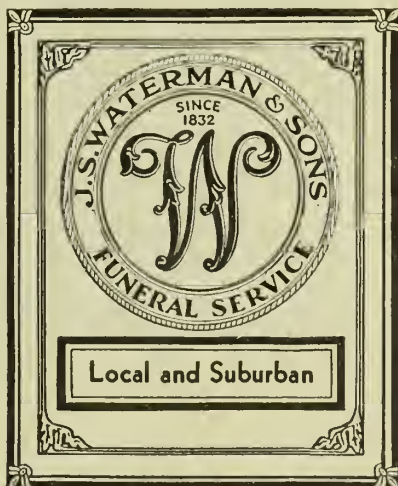
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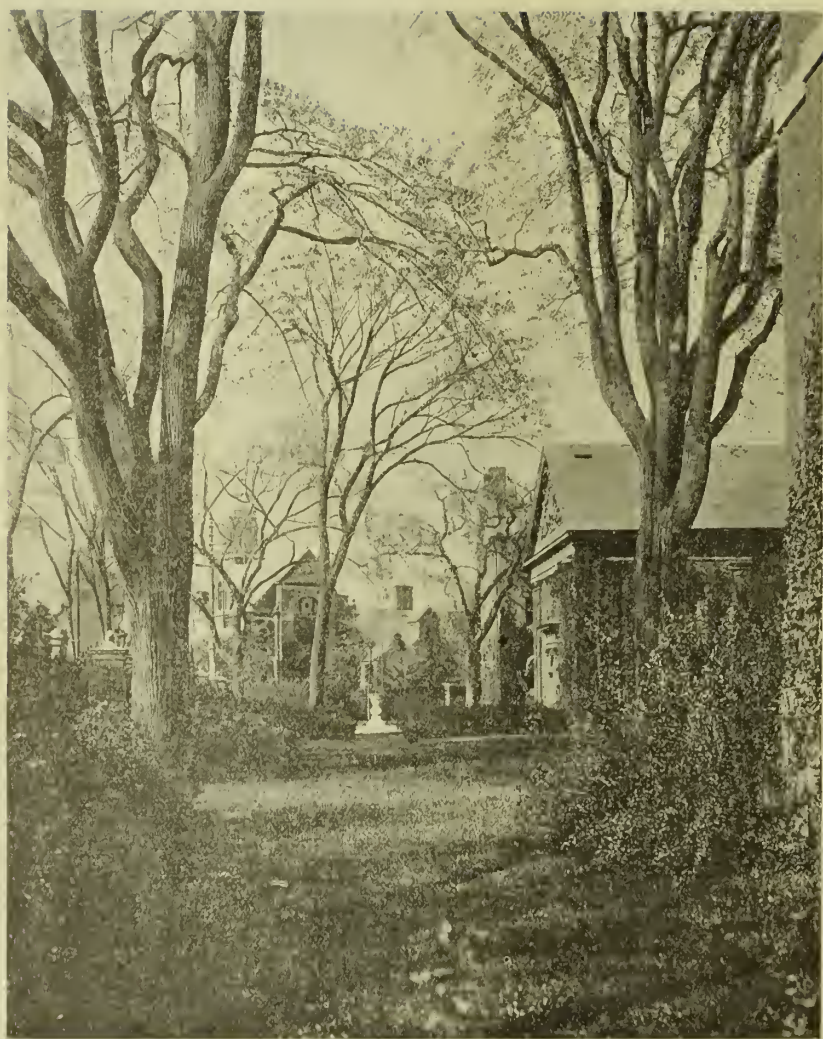
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Holden Chapel

Medicine at Harvard in the Seventeenth Century

By Samuel Eliot Morison,
Professor of History, Harvard University.

AT the time Harvard College was founded, Medicine had hardly established itself in the British Isles as a university subject. Both Oxford and Cambridge had a Regius Professor of Medicine, and both granted medical degrees; but neither offered any systematic instruction in the art of healing. For that purpose the average English university man apprenticed himself to a practising physician, at London or elsewhere. If he wanted a medical degree that counted for something, he went to the University of Padua, or to some Dutch university such as Leyden. In Scotland it was the same story; and it is a curious fact that the first student admitted to a medical degree in any Scottish university since the Reformation, was a Harvard graduate, John Glover (A.B. 1650), who took his M.D. at the King's College and University of Aberdeen, in 1654.

With such a background, it is not surprising that the founders of Harvard College made no place for medicine in their first curriculum. It was not that they intended Harvard College to be a theological school. That hoary myth, I hope to puncture once and for all in my forthcoming *History of Harvard College in the Seventeenth Century*. Harvard College was founded in order to provide a liberal education, i.e., the education of a *liber homo* or gentleman, for the ruling classes of the English Colonies. The curriculum reproduced, so far as circumstances would permit, the Liberal Arts curriculum of Cambridge University. The purpose of it was to give

that basis of knowledge, character, and self-expression, which would enable a young colonial to play an honorable part in the affairs of church or state. The special training in theology began only after the B.A. was conferred, and corresponded to what we should call a post-graduate course.

Circumstances were such that the College could provide a professional training, in the three years following the B.A., only for the Christian ministry. That, from the Puritan point of view, was by far the most important of the learned professions. But Henry Dunster, the first President of Harvard, went much further in his ambition for the infant college. In a petition of the year 1647 to the New England Confederation, he asked for means to purchase suitable books, "especially in Law, Phisicke, Philosophy, and Mathematickes" for the use of the scholars, "whose various inclinations to all professions might thereby be encouraged and furthered".¹ And in President Chauncy's administration, the Rev. Jonathan Mitchell of Cambridge, then Senior Fellow of the Corporation, petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts to authorize a "drive" for the foundation of new teaching fellowships, "some for physitians who may become able eminent and approved in that faculty, and be a privileged Society or Colledge in time", like the Royal College of Physicians in London.²

¹*Plymouth Colony Records*, ix. 95.

²*Ms., Mass. Archives*, ccxl. 149.

These ambitions were not destined to be fulfilled for more than a century. The New England Colonies found it hard enough to support a liberal arts college without undertaking medical instruction. But, coincident with President Dunster's effort, there was an attempt to establish medical lectures and dissections at Harvard, which may possibly have had some slight and temporary result.

The Rev. John Eliot of Roxbury, "Apostle to the Indians," wrote a letter in 1647 to the Rev. Thomas Shepard of Cambridge, which was printed the next year in a tract called "The Clear Sunshine of the Gospel breaking forth upon the Indians of New-England." One way, he writes, to counteract the "antick, foolish and irrationall conceits" of the Indian "Powwaws" or medicine men, is for the Lord to "stirre up the hearts of some or other of his people in England to give some maintenance toward some Schoole or Collegiate exercise that way"—i.e., in medicine—"wherein there should be Anatomies" (i.e., autopsies, dissections), rewards for the discovery of healing herbs, and means to "traîne up these poore Indians in that skill which would confound and root out their Powwaws."¹

"There is also another reason," he adds, "which moves my thought and desires this way, namely that our young Students in Physick may be trained up better then yet they bee, who have onely theoreticall knowledge, and are forced to fall to practice before ever they saw an Anatomy made, or duely trained up in making experiments, for we never had but one Anatomy in the Countrey, which Mr. *Giles Firman* (now in England) did make and read upon very well . . ." Giles Firmin, a graduate of the University of Cambridge, had for some time practised medicine in the frontier town of Ipswich.

It was in this same year, 1647, that

¹Printed in *Publications Colonial Society of Massachusetts*, xix. 273 and ff., where Albert Matthews, '82 has collected "Notes on Early Autopsies and Anatomical Lectures."

President Dunster was trying to raise money in order to buy medical books for the College Library. In answer to a petition of his, which has not been preserved, the General Court of the Bay Colony on 27 October 1647 (a month after Eliot's letter) voted: "We conceive it very necessary that such [in Harvard College] as studies phisick or chirurgery may have liberty to reade anotomy, and to anotomize once in foure yeares some malefator, in case there be such as the Courte shall allow of."

There was good medieval precedent for this courtesy. In 1387, King John I of Aragon had granted the University of Lerida an annual corpse for dissection, with the curious proviso that the criminal assigned for the purpose should be drowned.

Edward Johnson, describing the College in 1651, mentions somewhat casually after the catalogue of "hopeful plants" in the ministry "nurst up" by the College: "Beside these named, some help hath been had from hence in the study of Physick . . ."¹

Out of this we can glean but one certain fact: that Giles Firmin "did make and read upon" an "anatomy," which means that he lectured on a fresh dissection of a cadaver.² But whether he lectured before the Harvard students or in Boston, or elsewhere, does not appear. Nor is there any evidence as to whether Harvard ever cashed in on her quadriennial corpse privilege, or what help she gave "in the study of Physick." None of the recorded New England autopsies of the seventeenth century were performed at Cambridge; the College Library as late as 1723 had very few medical books; and the first medical lectures in Massachusetts were

¹*Wonder-Working Providence* (1910 ed.) p. 202.

²As Mr. Matthews conclusively shows in *op. cit.*, xix. 275. This passage has often been misconstrued, owing to ignorance of what an "anatomy" then meant: e.g., by Dr. Samuel A. Green in *Memorial History of Boston*, iv. 530, a chapter full of bad errors, such as giving President Chauncy an M.D.

those delivered by Dr. William Lee Perkins at Boston in 1765. Harvard *may* have had a course of lectures from Giles Firmin, and some of the students *may* have seen a corpse or two dissected; but certainly there is no ground for supposing that the College afforded any systematic medical instruction, or even facilities for reading theoretic medicine.

Nevertheless, the College encouraged her graduates to study medicine, according to the common English practice of the day, by apprenticing themselves to a physician. All such students were allowed to take their M.A. by arguing at Commencement a *quaestio* on a medical subject. The first to avail himself of this privilege was Elisha Cooke (A.B. 1657), founder of a family of physicians and politicians, in 1660. At his master's Commencement he made an exposition of Harvey's discovery of the circulation of the blood. At Commencement, 1678, Daniel Allin, later a Boston physician, denounced the old superstition that the liver let blood. Joseph Webb (A.B. 1684) in 1687 defended a new medical superstition, the notion of Harvard's early benefactor, Sir Kenelm Digby, that wounds might be cured by a sympathetic powder.¹ This proved to be a popular subject among budding medicos, and was frequently defended at Masters' Commencements well into the next century. On the 1698 Commencement sheet appear three more medical heresies: one of them Digbeian, on the magnetic treatment of wounds. The second defended the existence of a universal medicament or cure-all; and the third (which the candidate attacked) was the doctrine of specifics or signatures, according to which Divine Providence had provided an appropriate herb for every human ill. Nathaniel Clap (A.B. 1690) took the affirmative in 1693 to a curious proposition, "Whether the

plastic force of the world can be applied to putting through a poisoning job (*opus veneficium*)?" And Peter Cutler (A.B. 1698), took the progressive line that certain chemicals may cure diseases not reached by the Galenic pharmacopœia.

Such subjects as these, appear more and more frequently on the Masters' Commencement programs throughout the eighteenth century. I have never yet found one of them argued out. But it is quite possible that in some of our older medical libraries or private collections, there may be found a manuscript containing a syllogistic argument in Latin, on one of these medical subjects. If any such there be, I should be most grateful if the person to whom it is known, would either print it, or communicate a copy of the manuscript to me.

Finally, we have a most interesting list of medical books belonging to a seventeenth-century Harvard student, George Alcock (A.B. 1673) of Roxbury. This young man went to England before taking his M.A., and died there; the books that he had left in his study at Roxbury were then inventoried, and the list still reposes in the Suffolk County probate records. Out of some eighty works, over half are medical. Many of them had doubtless been brought over from England by the owner's grandfather George Alcock, an alumnus of St. John's College, Oxford; or inherited from his father John Alcock (A.B. Harvard, 1646), who was also a practising physician.

The list includes "The Workes of that famous chirurgion A. Parey" (Ambroise Paré), the "Idea Universae Medicinae Practicae" of Johannes Jonston, a Polish physician, first printed in 1644; "A Prooved Practise for all Young Chirurgians" by William Clowes, surgeon of Queen Elizabeth; a work by Joannes Guinterius Andernacus, the famous editor of Galen; the traditional "Three Books of Mesue," which formed the common text-book of pharmacology and therapeutics in the Middle Ages; five volumes by Daniel Sennert

¹Cf. G. L. Kittredge, *The Old Farmer and his Almanack* (1904), pp. 116-17. A "Discours touchant la Guérison par la poudre" by "le Chevalier Digby" (Paris, 1661), is in the H. C. L. Catalogue for 1723, p. 76.

(1572-1637), the most authoritative medical writer of his day; the famous "De Motu Cordis et Sanguinis" of Harvey; the "Libri de Medicina" (1616) of Giulio Guastavigno, Professor of Medicine at Pisa; works by Dr. P. M. Schlegel (1605-53) of Hamburg, and Dr. Peter Uffenbach (d. 1635) of Frankfort-on-Main; the "Ars Medica" of Duncan Liddel, Scottish Professor of Medicine at Helmsstadt; and one of the several editions of Philip Barrow's "Method of Physicke." The *Religio Medici* is there of course;

and the general tastes of this young medical student are shown by such authors as Horace, Homer, Plutarch, and Cervantes.¹

Whilst Alcock's library was not up-to-date at the time of his death, the inventory at least shows that the medical authors most highly regarded in Europe around 1650 were neither unknown nor unavailable for the few Harvard graduates who proceeded to the study and practice of medicine in the seventeenth century.

¹The entire list is to be printed shortly in *Pubs. Col. Soc. Mass.*

The Founding of the Harvard Medical School

By Henry R. Viets, M.D.

LIKE the founding of any enterprise, the Harvard Medical School had its beginnings in many aspects of the social and scientific life of the American Colonies in the last half of the eighteenth century. Although the School officially was inaugurated October 7, 1783, one hundred and fifty years ago this autumn, the seeds had been planted years before, partly in the mother country, England, and partly in the independent American soil of professional Boston. From Great Britain came the structural forms for the project, the Edinburgh school of Cullen and the scientific culture of Fothergill, relayed via Philadelphia to Boston and Cambridge; from America, the impetus to pass down the knowledge of the art of medicine, usually acquired by the teacher from a previous generation, in an organized manner under the guidance of the educational force of Harvard College. A number of other factors modified the plan, but these two were the solid foundations upon which the Harvard Medical School was erected. They may be examined separately, although they were always

intermingled, a complicated pattern, with many lights and shadows of the Colonial times and Revolutionary America. We turn first to British medicine and its influence on American medicine before 1783.

Two great teachers of medicine, one a practical university professor, the other a wealthy, benevolent practitioner and stimulator of the best in eighteenth century scientific thought, stand out as the guiding stars to the young Colonists who sought medical instruction in Great Britain. William Cullen, who began his study of physic under Monro *primus* at the Edinburgh Medical School and then went to Glasgow, as a young man, to found the medical school there, returned, at the age of forty-five, to his alma mater, where he began a series of lectures which were soon to make him the leading teacher of his time. He used English instead of Latin, paid particular attention to the common types of diseases which would interest students, taught them to observe the course of nature in disease, to distinguish between essential and accidental symptoms, and to

discriminate the action of remedies from the curative operations of nature. It was not through originality but by sound reasoning and judgment that Cullen appealed to the students. During this period, at the height of Cullen's power, both John Morgan and William Shippen of Philadelphia sat at his feet and obtained their M.D. degrees ten years before the American Revolution. These two students were soon followed by Benjamin Rush and Adam Kuhn. All four were graduated at Edinburgh between the years 1762 and 1768. What is more natural than that the first of these brilliant young men, when he got back to Philadelphia, should found the first medical school in America on the lines developed by Cullen at Glasgow and later expanded in Edinburgh? When Rush and Kuhn returned, moreover, they too, became professors in this new school and, with Shippen, made up the faculty in 1770. It was Morgan, Shippen, Rush and Kuhn, also, who were called upon by Washington to organize the American Medical Department at the time of the Revolution, and by reason of the contact between the Philadelphia group and the young men from Boston, such as John Warren, who had not had such superior educational facilities, the idea of organized medical teaching was transmitted from Philadelphia to the university at Cambridge.

John Fothergill, the most important practitioner of medicine in London in the middle of the eighteenth century, held no public appointment as a teacher, and yet his influence upon John Morgan and William Shippen, particularly on the latter, and the wide-spread use of his books in America, are both factors which bear upon the subject at hand. Fothergill became greatly interested in both the Pennsylvania Hospital and in the medical department of the College of Philadelphia. To the hospital he sent a series of pen pictures illustrating the anatomy of the human body. These were used by young Shippen, on his return from Edinburgh, in his early ana-

tomical courses in 1762, and, also, when he became professor of anatomy and surgery, in the newly founded medical school, three years later. Shippen taught young Rush before he went abroad. Rush, in turn, felt the influence of both Cullen in Edinburgh and Fothergill in London. Adam Kuhn, moreover, studied botany with Linnaeus before going to London and he and Fothergill must have had many interests in common. While Cullen taught these young men the art of instruction in medicine, Fothergill gave them an interest in the broader aspects of practice.

Although Cullen and Fothergill were the principal teachers of the Philadelphians, both Morgan and Shippen came in close contact with William and John Hunter. Morgan, moreover, met Morgagni in Italy and Kuhn studied with Linnaeus at Upsala. No group of teachers of any time could have been a greater source of inspiration for these well-to-do American boys, privileged to travel in Europe at a time when travel was difficult and money was scarce and unstable in America. This was particularly true in the part of the country now known as the New England States. Few Colonial fathers in Boston could afford to send their sons to Europe for a medical degree, especially for a period of three to five years, as did the worthy parents of Philadelphia.

Before the Revolution Boston had had a few practitioners trained in Europe; none sent there definitely for a degree. The man who stood out most prominently was James Lloyd, who came to Boston in 1752, trained in obstetrics by Smellie and in surgery by Cheselden. Lloyd was a man of wide interests, a good practitioner, and he soon became one of the leading physicians of his day. He took pupils into his house on the old apprentice system, particularly recent graduates of Harvard College, such as Joseph Warren, Isaac Rand, Jr., John Jeffries, Theodore Parsons, and John Clarke. Lloyd's method of teaching exemplifies the essential element in medical education in the eighteenth cen-

tury in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. If fathers could not send their sons abroad on account of financial reasons, at least they could have them taught as apprentices by the best practitioner in Boston. Lloyd's only contemporary rival, before the Revolution, was Edward A. Holyoke of Salem, who also took students into his house. To Holyoke went John Warren, Joseph's younger brother, who was destined to be the dynamic force in founding the Harvard Medical School. All this was reasonably satisfactory as a system for developing practitioners of medicine, but it did not lead to the founding of a medical school nor to the teaching of medicine in a systematic manner such as that inaugurated at Philadelphia. A few more events of importance, however, were to occur before the major catastrophe, the American Revolution, set aside all possibility for the time being, of organized medical education in Boston.

Even among the general public, it is to be noted, there was a growing interest in anatomy and the dissection of the human body. The Scotsman, William Hunter, who had studied in Edinburgh under the elder Monro, gave public lectures on the subject at Newport as early as 1754. A successful practitioner and prominent man of his day, a student with the best medical library in the colonies north of New York, Hunter's lectures were popular and served to keep the subject before the minds of the public as well as the physicians of his time. Among the general students at Harvard College, moreover, there existed some sort of an anatomical society even before the year 1771. The society is said to have owned a skeleton and to have practiced dissection on animals. Their meetings were held in private and it is quite possible that there may have been an examination of the human body.

Of more importance to us, however, was the founding of the Boston Medical Society in May, 1780, and the request sent by this society to John Warren to give

a course of anatomical lectures in November, 1780. There is evidence that Warren had already given a secret course in anatomy, the year before, in connection with his position as surgeon to the Military Hospital. So great was the general prejudice against dissection in Boston, however, that it was not until the Boston Medical Society was founded that any attempt was made to give lectures publicly. In the winter of 1780-1781 such lectures were given by Warren. Whether impelled by scientific curiosity or not, it remains a fact that many literary and scientific men attended, including President Willard and members of the Harvard corporation. The next year another course was given, this time attended by the entire senior class of Harvard College. Was this at President Willard's instigation? We do not know, but, apparently as a direct result, the president and fellows of Harvard College, meeting in Boston on May 16, 1782, took under consideration the establishment of a medical professorship at the college. A committee was appointed to take up the subject and this committee, after a summer of deliberation, reported to the corporation September 19, of the same year. The principal recommendations were that the library of the university be enlarged by the addition of books on anatomy, surgery, physic and chemistry, that anatomical preparation and an anatomical theatre be established, that chairs of anatomy and surgery, theory and practice of physic and *materia medica* and chemistry be provided in the University, that every student after passing an examination should be entitled to a certificate under the seal of the University, and that degrees in physic should be conferred as soon as sufficient funds were available. In November and December, John Warren was chosen professor of anatomy and surgery, and Benjamin Waterhouse, professor of the theory and practice of physic, and in May 1783, Aaron Dexter, professor of chemistry and *materia medica*.

These momentous events, so rapidly cul-

minating into a medical department of Harvard College, are not entirely understandable even when looked back upon through a vista of one hundred and fifty years. Granted that John Warren's influence was great and that he was fired with the zeal of an inspired leader, how did it come about that the clerical corporation of Harvard College, puritanical in foundation, although somewhat divided by sectarianism in 1782-83 and still bound so closely by both the Church and the State that no layman was chosen to the corporation until ten years later, liberalized itself and recognized anatomical studies, public dissections, and overthrew so completely the apprenticeship system, which seems to have been reasonably satisfactory in pre-Revolutionary times? It was a bold step and to John Warren must be given the credit for its accomplishment. Other figures were secondary; Warren was the leader.

Warren's choice as professor of anatomy and surgery was inevitable. The son of a respected citizen and horticulturist, his mother the daughter of a doctor, he was born in Boston in 1753, educated at Harvard College, and graduated in 1771. He began the study of medicine with his brother, some twelve years his senior, the pupil of James Lloyd. He soon, however, became apprenticed to the eminent Hol- yoke of Salem, with whom he remained for two years, after which time he established himself as a practitioner in the same city. Swept along by the swift current of the Revolution, he soon had to face the stern reality of war in the summer of 1775, when his brother, Joseph, was killed at Bunker Hill. At the age of twenty-two Warren was appointed surgeon to the hospital at Cambridge, after Washington had arrived in July. After service at Long Island and elsewhere, he returned to Boston in April, 1777, and established a military hospital at the site of the present Massachusetts General Hospital. He became the senior surgeon, a position which he held until the close of the war. After hostilities ceased he founded a hospital in Brook-

line, with Rand and Hayward, for the treatment of small-pox, and began his lectures in anatomy. He had come in close contact, during the war, with both Shippen and Rush of Philadelphia, and it was from them he obtained advice, when requested by the corporation of Harvard College to establish a medical school. Thus the influence of Cullen and Fothergill came indirectly to Boston, and medical teaching was established on firm Edinburgh tradition, although Warren had none of the advantages of the Philadelphia men from direct European stimulation.

Benjamin Waterhouse, a year younger than John Warren, had an entirely different background when he accepted the chair of the theory and practice of physic. Born in Newport, the son of a judge, his mother a niece of John Fothergill of London, the young Waterhouse was brought up as a Quaker. He first studied painting along with his schoolmate, Gilbert Stuart, but at the age of sixteen decided to become a doctor and was apprenticed to a physician in Newport. Having the means to finish his education in Europe, he left Boston on the last British boat to sail before the port was closed in 1775. Arriving in England, he went directly to Fothergill, and later spent some time at Edinburgh before going to the University of Leyden, where he received his medical degree in 1781. Although not actively engaged in the American Revolution, he apparently was a patriot, as he attempted to enroll himself in the medical school at Leyden in 1778 as "a citizen of the free and United States of America." While in Europe he came in contact with Franklin and formed an intimate association with John Adams and John Quincy Adams. After obtaining his degree he again returned to London, where, through the wide influence of Fothergill, he formed many distinguished acquaintances. Although tempted to remain in London as Fothergill's assistant, he turned this offer aside and returned to America. Beginning practice in Cambridge in 1782, one of the best educated physicians of his time,

his attainments were soon recognized, and it was not unnatural that he was asked to accept the chair of medicine in Warren's school. That he had unusual characteristics which made coöperation with Warren difficult, does not seem to have been entirely appreciated at the time of his appointment. Beginning with so many superior endowments, and perhaps because of them, he soon, however, was in conflict with Warren and others. He had an unfortunate air of scholarly aristocratism and nothing of the devotion to students and the ability to teach medicine simply, so characteristic of Cullen, the Philadelphia group, and John Warren.

Aaron Dexter, a little older than the other two men, was of still different type and it is difficult to fit him into the picture with the spirited, dynamic Warren and the controversial, unpopular Waterhouse. He was born in Chelsea in 1750, graduated from Harvard College in 1776, served for a time with Danforth, a chemist in Boston, and then became a ship's surgeon during the Revolution. He was captured and exchanged by the enemy a number of times, but does not seem to have otherwise taken an active part in the war. A large practice was acquired after his return to Boston and he became one of the incorporators of the Massachusetts Medical Society in 1781, serving as its librarian for ten years. He was a kindly, peaceful man, who gave his best services to the Harvard Medical School, avoiding the numerous altercations between Warren and Waterhouse. His education had been scanty, but he seems to have been an excellent teacher and a sound, although not very inspiring, member of the faculty.

Such, in brief, were the characters of the three men who became the first faculty of the Harvard Medical School. The inauguration of Warren and Waterhouse took place October 7, 1783, when, at eleven o'clock in the morning, the gov-

ernor of Massachusetts and his staff, the corporation of the university and the board of overseers met on the steps of Harvard Hall and were received by the president, professors and tutors. Aaron Dexter could not be present. A little before twelve o'clock all the undergraduates assembled in front of Harvard and formed in two lines in the inverted order. As soon as they were formed, the president and the rest of the corporation, the professors and tutors preceded the governor and the lieutenant governor and other members of the board of overseers, the consul and vice-consul of France, the officers of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and the clergymen and other gentlemen present, down the steps of Harvard, from whence they were conducted to the meeting-house by the undergraduates, who, at the front door, opened to the right and left and stood with their heads uncovered until the governors of the university and other gentlemen of the procession had passed into the meeting-house. The exercises were conducted in Latin. Warren and Waterhouse were inducted with an elaborate ceremony, and the company dined in the Hall.

Thus began our Medical School, the natural product of the times, with the best of men at its head. No one could have predicted the difficulties to be met in the near future, although John Warren must have realized some of them. In spite of an unfortunate series of events which were soon to take place, the School served its part in the eighteenth century in the education of young men for our profession and in upholding the highest standards of medicine in this country. May we recognize today that the faculty continues to discharge, as did Warren, Waterhouse, and Dexter, the task imposed upon them, "with diligence and fidelity, and to the advantage of the students in their particular department."

M. G. H. Goes Hollywood



The interest of Mr. Edward Malinckrodt has made possible the production of an historical film portraying the first public administration of ether as an anesthetic as it took place in the old operating room at the Massachusetts General Hospital on October the 16th, 1846. A careful survey of the original documents was made by the University Film Foundation under the direction of Mr. Haeseler. Painstaking efforts were made to establish the exact events and personages concerned in the discovery so that the film may be accredited with historical accuracy.

A one-reel version has been placed on exhibition in the Century of Progress Exposition at Chicago. The hospital has been presented with a two-reel version which was shown to the public in June. The widespread interest in the film was evi-

denced by a brisk demand for tickets that made it necessary to give from four to five performances on three successive days. Members of the present hospital staff and personnel formed the cast and the Ether Dome was restored as far as possible to its appearance in 1846.

The two-reel version of the film opens with a tribute to Dr. Crawford Long and the reproduction of his picture. Following this are portrayed the early experiments of Morton using ether to induce narcosis first in fish and then in his black spaniel. Morton then administers ether to himself and shortly thereafter to Mr. Eben Frost, a Boston musician, for the purpose of a tooth extraction.

On the morning of October 16th a crowd of visiting doctors assembles in the
(Continued on page fifteen)

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October
 6th and 7th.

As announced in the previous BULLETIN arrangements for the celebration of the 150th Anniversary of the Medical School falling on the 6th and 7th of October have gone forward and the program is now in the hands of each alumnus. As will be seen, the present solemnity to be held in Sanders Theatre will repeat as far as possible that held at the founding of the School. This will be the first academic function under the guidance of President Conant and it is therefore doubly important that every graduate of the School make plans to attend. Please signify this intention by filling out and returning the postcard *at once* so that the committee may know how many to provide for at the luncheons, dinner, and at Sanders Theatre.

* * *

AN OLD LADY SHOWS HER MEDALS

[From the Harvard Alumni Bulletin.]

To the Editor of the BULLETIN:

The Library of the Harvard Medical School, with the Massachusetts General Hospital, has just sent to Chicago an exhibit showing some of the contributions to the

progress of medicine which our Old Lady has made during the past century. Alumni who visit the Exposition will do well to locate this exhibit in the Hall of Science.

The Hall of Science is a huge building, displaying many interesting and amazing sights. In the midst of modernistic architecture and schemes of advertising and salesmanship of all kinds, Harvard folk may be glad of an oasis, and this they will discover at Booth 19 in Group L.

Here they will find something very simple and homely. For our Old Lady never was much of a hand at showing off. She has sent to the Fair, however, some of her well-earned medals which are worth looking at and of which she is especially proud. For, when all is said and done, her record is a good one. She began to educate doctors in 1783 when there was only one other medical school in this country, and has continued doing it successfully ever since. She began to do medical research at once by learning about vaccination against small-pox and introducing it in America; her surgeons first publicly demonstrated that anesthesia with ether was possible and this demonstration began a new era in surgery; she discovered how to recognize and cure appendicitis and thus helped to save countless lives; she found out how to use the X-rays to recognize diseases of the gastro-intestinal tract; she established a method of curing pernicious anemia, a chronic disease hitherto considered hopeless; she attacked fearlessly certain diseases of the brain and opened up the field of cerebral surgery; she studied constantly how to improve medical education—a subject about which we still speak so glibly and know so little—and gave birth to generation after generation of great leaders of medical thought who carried forward her traditions and still are doing it, striving to make her process of training doctors a more perfect one.

These are some of the medals which our Old Lady has put on exhibition in Chicago. They are not too bad.

REGINALD FITZ, '09.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Fads catch and temporarily engage the attention of the American people, be it in the matter of dress, diet or diversion. Articles appearing in the current leading magazines tell us that education has become a fad and we are suffering from an overproduction of college graduates. Student employment offices in turn find themselves burdened with young men and women ill-equipped to finance themselves through college while endeavoring to maintain the required academic standard.

The Harvard Medical School ought to enlist the interest of even those writers who denounce overproduction in the educational field because of the fact that many apply for admission but few are chosen. Despite the "depression" about seven hundred applied for admission to the Harvard Medical School for the year 1933-1934; and the traditional one hundred and twenty-five applicants were accepted. These candidates were chosen after careful consideration by a committee of six doctors. The Harvard Medical School thus totals five hundred and twenty students, one hundred and twenty-five in each of the first two classes and one hundred and thirty-five in the third and fourth classes. In this number there are necessarily those who must assist themselves financially due to the present economic conditions and those who need aid because of meager finances at all times.

To summarize the activities of the Student Employment Office during the last school year, one hundred and seventy students applied for employment and one hundred and fifty-eight placements were made. These placements cover positions in hospitals, laboratories and libraries; translating; tutoring; companion positions; settlement house work; typing; waiting on table; care of furnaces; night switchboard operators; driving doctors' cars; taking children to and from school; collecting tickets at football games; and in the summer, camp and tutor-companion positions. There is no task too complicated and no job too

menial to enlist the interest of the employment secretary. Students are known personally through an almost daily contact, and discrimination is shown in the selection of applicants.

It is difficult to estimate the monetary value to students of this employment, since the majority of the winter positions provide room or room and board. The Baker Memorial, Massachusetts General Hospital, appoints four fourth-year students as student interns and in return for services (taking histories, etc.) gives complete maintenance, i.e., room, board and laundry; the New England Deaconess takes five in like manner; the Palmer Memorial, two; the New England Baptist, one; the Robert Brigham, two; the Trumbull Hospital, one; the Emerson Hospital, one; the Bournewood Hospital, one; the Home for Aged Men, the Little Wanderers' Home, the Massachusetts Home and similar institutions enlist the services of a third or fourth-year student, this student to act in minor emergencies in the absence of the doctor on call.

Hospitals and individual doctors employ students to perform laboratory work. This is paid for on a monthly or an hourly basis: the minimum fee for merely maintaining the cleanliness of a laboratory being fifty cents an hour; the pay increasing as more experience is demanded of the student.

Doctors are turning more and more to the School for assistance with their patients, and are employing students as companions for them. The duties vary from playing chess, to watching diets and dressing arthritics.

Married couples fit into the scheme of settlement houses or serve as substitute parents when mid-winter cruises prove alluring. Students' wives occasionally assume daytime responsibilities, such as social workers or doctors' assistants.

A limited number of first-year students wait on table at Vanderbilt Hall and in return for service every other day they are given all of their meals.

That readers may realize that the

School is doing its share to assist needy students of high caliber, the following summary of the assignments of scholarships and loans is given:

Scholarships

Number of scholarship awards	55
Amount awarded \$11,900.00	

Loans

Number of students granted loans, payable two years after graduation	73
Amount loaned \$14,047.18	
Number of students granted temporary loans, payable September, 1933	7
Amount loaned \$820.75	
Total number of students aided by loans (Four students received 2 loans)	76
Total amount loaned \$14,867.93	

ELIZABETH W. WETHERBEE,
Secretary for Student Employment.

PROGRESS IN THE COURSES FOR GRADUATES

The Courses for Graduates has had an interesting development since its organization in 1911. The growth of this department is not comparable to the 150-year old undergraduate department, but advances are being made each year. Medicine is constantly progressing and it is part of the function of the organized medical school to make this information available to the community by continuing the training of doctors.

This problem is receiving much attention from the deans of many of the seventy-three medical schools throughout the United States and Canada. During the past year Deans Edsall and Ober have assisted me in making a survey of the post-graduate work in the two countries. We received prompt cooperation from seventy schools. Two paragraphs from a letter received from Dean W. McKim Marriott of Washington University, St. Louis, are of interest in pointing the way to progress.

"You will note that the largest number of students has been in Pediatrics. This is explained by the fact that it was in the Department of Pediatrics that the first real effort was made in the school to provide a well-organized and systematic course for post-graduate students. A great deal of

effort has been put on this course. The senior members of the department participate actively and the work is as seriously considered by the Faculty and as carefully planned as undergraduate instruction. As a result the course became so popular that we were compelled to limit the numbers.

"It is my own feeling that there is a real need for good post-graduate education, and that when properly conducted men will avail themselves of the opportunities offered. Unsystematized instruction of the type so often given, where students are just allowed to 'hang around,' listen to a few lectures by individual stars and be taught the rest of the time by interns, are relatively useless . . ."

One outstanding feature of post-graduate medical education is that there is very little endowment for such work. Only one school, Albany Medical College, has any substantial fund. They have \$250,000 for this special field. At Harvard only the income from \$50,000 of special funds is available for use in this department. The balance of needed money is raised from fees and special temporary funds such as the subsidy from the Commonwealth Fund. This condition makes post-graduate medical education essentially a proprietary field, quite analagous to the undergraduate situation at the beginning of this century. History does not record marked progress in proprietary medical educational institutions.

Post-graduate medical education is a dual responsibility of the community and the medical profession. Its direct benefit to the people is more evident than the farther removed undergraduate years. We believe that proper endowment with more attention to post-graduate teaching technique will advance the post-graduate field even farther than has been the development in the undergraduate courses.

Today the subjects given at Harvard Medical School, Courses for Graduates are excellent and well worth while. These courses were attended by 257 doctors during the last year. We feel hopeful about the future and believe much progress will

be made because so many competent leaders are working to improve this field. This department will gladly receive suggestions on any of the problems involved.

LEROY E. PARKINS, M.D.,

*Secretary to the Courses for Graduates
under the Commonwealth Fund.*

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Three meetings of the Officers and Council of the Harvard Medical Alumni Association have been held since my last report. In addition to the discussion of and action on the BULLETIN, the following business has been acted upon:

As an economy measure, the Association's guarantee of \$1,000 to meet the hospital bills of needy students was reduced to \$500, the vote reading, "Upon the recommendation of the Director of Student Health, the Harvard Medical Alumni Association will pay, up to a total of \$500, the hospital bills of needy students falling ill while actually engaged in Harvard Medical School work between October 1, 1932 and July 1, 1933; this liability not to be due until July 1, 1933." A further revision of the Students' Sickness Fund appropriation for the year 1933-1934 has been suggested, but a discussion of this has been postponed until the fall meeting.

The distribution of the BULLETIN to non-alumni has been limited to the Board of Overseers of Harvard University; to the officers of the Harvard Alumni Association, the Harvard Alumni Bulletin, and the Associated Harvard Clubs; the New England Hospitals; and to those medical schools which have requested copies.

In the future, plain, self-addressed envelopes will be enclosed with the cards sent to members of the Association asking for their contributions—a very real economy for the Association. Other measures taken have been the reduction of our customary contribution to the commencement expenses of the University from \$100 to \$50, and the making of this annual meeting self-supporting.

The following names were suggested to the committee in charge of the nomina-

tions of candidates for the Board of Overseers, Directors of the Harvard Alumni Association, and members of the Harvard Fund Council: for the Board of Overseers, Franklin S. Newell and Eugene H. Pool; for a Director of the Harvard Alumni Association, Elliott C. Cutler; for a member of the Harvard Fund Council, Francis M. Rackemann.

It was voted to give a dinner to the graduating class of the Medical School with the object of interesting them in our Association and as a welcome into the profession. Such a dinner was given for the first time in 1932 and the success of that dinner was surpassed this year. It was held in Vanderbilt Hall on Wednesday, May 24, and was attended by the Officers and Council of the Association, 24 doctors who were chosen by the students and over 100 members of the graduating class. Speeches were given by Channing Frothingham, Walter B. Cannon, Hans Zinsser, Otto Folin, and William Quinby, as well as by the president of the class, Fred Simmons.

It was voted that the Harvard Medical Alumni Association should take a leading part in the observance, in October of this year, of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Harvard Medical School, and that we should hold the clinical part of the triennial April (1934) meeting at this time. October 6 has been set aside for the day of clinical demonstrations and papers at the various hospitals, with a dinner for the entire Association Friday night, followed by formal ceremonies in Cambridge on Saturday. Respectfully submitted,

JAMES M. FAULKNER, M.D., *Secretary.*

HARVARD DINNER IN MILWAUKEE

About 60 guests attended the Harvard Medical Alumni dinner, held during the meeting of the A. M. A. in Milwaukee, June 14. Hugh Payne Greeley, '06, of Madison, Wis., was toastmaster. Among the speakers called upon were: William H. Robey, '95, Elliott P. Joslin, '95, Reginald Fitz, '09, Roger I. Lee, '05, Frank H. Lahey, '04, Robert B. Osgood, '99, William J. Kerr, '15, Carl Hedblom, '11.

TREASURER'S REPORT

ACTUAL RECEIPTS SEPT. 15, 1932—SEPT. 15, 1933

	Sept. 15-May 15*	May 15-Sept. 15	Total Receipts
1932-1933 Appeals	\$2,276.00	\$234.25	\$2,510.25
Advertising	568.75	33.75	602.50
Receipts—Annual Luncheon		54.40	54.40
Bank Interest	4.13	1.15	5.28
	<hr/> \$2,848.88	<hr/> \$323.55	<hr/> \$3,172.43

ACTUAL EXPENDITURES SEPT. 15, 1932—SEPT. 15, 1933

	Sept. 15-May 15*	May 15-Sept. 15	Total Expenditures
Cost of BULLETIN	\$874.65	\$284.53	\$1,159.18
Cost of Appeals (1932-1933)	102.57		102.57
Cost of Annual Luncheon		54.40	54.40
Secretary's Wages	666.66	333.34	1,000.00
Incidentals	17.72	6.00	23.72
Student Sickness Support	302.87	87.48	390.35
Commencement Fee		50.00	50.00
Dinner to Fourth-Year Class		130.15	130.15
Bank Charges	.77	.32	1.09
Appeals, 1933-1934 (Advanced Work)		130.29	130.29
	<hr/> \$1,965.24	<hr/> \$1,076.51	<hr/> \$3,041.75

*Indicates figures printed in June issue of BULLETIN

Total Receipts Sept. 15, 1932—Sept. 15, 1933	\$3,172.43
Total Expenditures Sept. 15, 1932—Sept. 15, 1933	<hr/> 3,041.75

Surplus Sept. 15, 1933	\$130.68
Bank Balance Sept. 15, 1932	832.79
Bank Balance Sept. 15, 1933	<hr/> \$963.47

The year 1932-1933 was a difficult one for your treasurer and it is in the nature of a triumph that he reports a surplus at the end of the fiscal year. This surplus was made possible by the practice of the most rigid economy and the loyal support of members of the Association who rallied to the support of the treasury during the last few months. The surplus for the year 1932-1933 is \$130.68; and added to the surplus of the previous years, gives a cash balance of \$963.47 as of September 15, 1933.

A total of \$2,510.25 was voluntarily contributed by 768 alumni, or an average subscription of \$3.26 per person. This year we find that there are 85 or 10 per cent. less subscribers than 1931-1932 and 235 less than 1930-1931. The fact that so many responded during this last difficult year leads us to hope for material

proof of your loyalty as more prosperous conditions return—as we are confident they will.

Association expenses were kept at a minimum this past year. The BULLETIN cost less to publish, despite the economies of 1931-1932; and the cost of appeals for contributions was likewise reduced. The Association reduced its contribution to the expenses of Commencement fifty per cent. The Annual Luncheon was self-supporting. The Association continued its contributions toward the hospital expenses of needy students. Seven students were aided at 20 per cent. greater expense than the previous year. It continued the custom, inaugurated in 1932, of giving the members of the graduating class a dinner in June.

Respectfully submitted,
AUGUSTUS THORNDIKE, JR., M.D.,
Treasurer.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEETING

The annual meeting of the Harvard Medical Alumni Association was held in the Georgian Room of the Hotel Statler at 12.30 P. M. on June 6, 1933. About sixty-five members attended the meeting which was presided over by President William C. Quinby. The report of the Secretary was read and approved as was the Treasurer's report. The following men were elected to the Council for the next three years: Thomas H. Lanman, '16, William B. Castle, '21, and Bancroft C. Wheeler, '24. Dr. Quinby reviewed briefly the activities of the Association during the last year and outlined the plans for the coming celebration of the Sesquicentenary of the Medical School. Following the meeting a buffet luncheon was served.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES M. FAULKNER, M.D., *Secretary*.

APPOINTMENTS

Fourteen graduates of the Harvard Medical School have received new appointments to the School to take effect September 1, 1933, for the period of one year:

'22—Walter S. Levenson as Assistant in Surgery.

'23—Charles L. Short as Assistant in Pharmacology and Research Fellow in Medicine.

'27—Morton G. Brown as Research Fellow in Medicine.

'28—Daniel Abramson as Assistant in Obstetrics.

'29—Herbert D. Adams as Assistant in Surgery.

'29—John E. Brown as Assistant in Pediatrics.

'29—Bernard B. Gilman as Assistant in Pediatrics.

'29—Joseph H. Marks as Assistant in Roentgenology.

'30—Eugene C. Eppinger as Assistant in Medicine.

'30—Brendan D. Leahey as Assistant in Ophthalmology.

'30—Philip Shambaugh as Arthur Tracy Cabot Fellow in Surgery.

'31—Richard B. Capps as Research Fellow in Medicine.

'31—Lucius E. Eckles as Assistant in Pediatrics.

'31—Albert H. Bryan as Research Fellow in Medicine.

M. G. H. GOES HOLLYWOOD

(Continued from page nine)

Ether Dome as word is passed around that Dr. John Warren is to allow the administration of a preparation to alleviate pain during a surgical operation. The patient, Gilbert Abbott, with a venous tumor beneath his jaw is led to the operating room and strapped into the old original chair. Morton is delayed by some last minute repairs to the valve on his inhalor and arrives just as Dr. Warren has his knife poised, ready to proceed with the operation without him. During a short delay in which Morton fills his inhalor with ether the patient is reassured by Eben Frost who accompanies Morton and then ether is administered for the first time in a major surgical operation. The records state that this first anesthesia was an imperfect one, and the superb acting of the modern Gilbert Abbott portrays this fact. At the conclusion of the operation, however, the patient states that he felt no pain and Warren repeats the historic phrase "Gentlemen, this is no humbug." The replica of the original inhalor used in the film was made under the direction of Dr. Frank Richardson. The instruments and furnishings of the operating room were taken from the hospital museum.

WILLIAM THOMAS COUNCILMAN

1854-1933

Dr. Councilman, the third Shattuck Professor of Pathological Anatomy and the first professor to be called from the outside, was appointed in 1892.

He received his medical degree at the age of 22 years, in 1878, from the University of Maryland. His inspiration for research came from Henry Newhall Martin the first Professor of Physiology at Johns Hopkins. In 1880 he went abroad for two years and studied pathology with Chiari in Vienna, with Cohnheim and Weigert in Leipzig and with Recklinhausen in Strassburg. On his return he taught pathology in the College of Physicians and Surgeons and in Maryland University

Medical School. In 1886 he joined Dr. Welch at Johns Hopkins as associate in Pathology; 1888 he spent abroad working in Pathology and he returned to become Assistant Professor of Pathology at Johns Hopkins, and resident pathologist at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he was associated with Welch, Osler, Halsted, and Mall.

His incumbency of the Professorship at Harvard was characterized by great enthusiasm and effectiveness in teaching, by the constant stream of men of ability he attracted into research in Pathology, and by the warm affection for him acquired by his pupils and associates. For many years he was visiting Pathologist at the Boston City Hospital. He stimulated the organization of the Pathological Department at the Massachusetts General Hospital. From 1913 to 1917 he was Pathologist at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital.

His best known publications are with Lafleur on amoebic dysentery in 1891; on nephritis in 1897; with Mallory and Wright on epidemic cerebro-spinal meningitis in 1898; with Mallory and Pearce on diphtheria in 1900, and a large monograph on small-pox and vaccinia in 1904 with Magrath, Brinckerhoff, Tyzzer, Southard, Thompson, Bancroft and Calkins. He wrote numerous addresses and short articles. With F. B. Mallory he wrote a "Syllabus of Pathology," J. L. Fairbanks Company, Boston, 1904. "Pathology, A Manual for Teacher and students" was published in 1912 by W. M. Leonard of Boston. "Disease and Its Causes" was published by Holt and Company in 1913.

He was a member of the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association from 1904 to 1909, and a member of the Board of Trustees from 1909 to 1917. In 1916 he went as Medical Observer with Dr. A. Hamilton Rice's Amazon Expedition. In 1917, because of reaching the retiring age of 63, he left the Brigham Hospital. In 1919 he went to Pekin for two years as temporary Professor of Pathology at the Union Medical Col-

lege. He resigned from his professorship at the Harvard Medical School in 1923.

He was a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, fellow of the Philosophical Society of Philadelphia, and member of the National Academy of Sciences. His honorary degrees were A.M., Harvard University, 1899; A.M., Johns Hopkins University, 1902; LL.D., University of Maryland, 1907; LL.D., McGill University, 1911; LL.D., Western Reserve University, 1929; LL.D., St. John's College, 1932.

In 1894 he married Isabella Coolidge of Boston. He is survived by Mrs. Councilman and three daughters, Mrs. W. O. Morgan and Mrs. Frank Wigglesworth, both of Cambridge, and Dr. Elizabeth Councilman, a graduate of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.
S. B. W.

NECROLOGY

'72—GEORGE EDWARDS ABBOTT died at Lakeside, Cal., May 28, 1933.

'73—RUSSELL DUNSON ELLIOTT died at Provincetown, Mass., May 21, 1933. He was formerly a member of the school committee of Boston and police surgeon.

'77—EDWARD OSGOOD OTIS died at Exeter, N. H., May 28, 1933. Dr. Otis was Professor, *emeritus*, of Pulmonary Diseases and Climatology, Tufts College Medical School; member and past president of the American Climatological and Clinical Association; past president and honorary director of the National Tuberculosis Association; past president of the American Public Health Association and the Massachusetts Tuberculosis League; in 1901 delegate to the Congress on Tuberculosis in London and in 1912 to the International Congress on Tuberculosis in Rome; corresponding member of the International Anti-Tuberculosis Association; major, medical reserve corps, U. S. Army; served during the World War; author of "Tuberculosis, Its Cause, Cure and Prevention" and "Pulmonary Tuberculosis."

'83—FRANCIS XAVIER DEROIN died at Chicago, June 11, 1933.

'84—WALTER MORRISON FRIEND died at Brooklyn, N. Y., May 31, 1933. He was a member of the staff of St. Peter's Hospital, Brooklyn, and associated with the medical department of the Brooklyn Union Gas Company.

'84—HERBERT WILLIAM NEWHALL died at Lynn, Mass., June 18, 1933.

